

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A single-acting cylinder-piston unit of plunger type, comprising a cylinder (1) closed at one end by a base (4) and containing a slidable cylindrical rod (5), the inner end of which presents two adjacent circumferential grooves (18, 28), the first (18) of which acts as a final seat for a split ring (8) defining the limit of the outward stroke of said rod, and the second (28) of which acts as a temporary seat for the said split ring enabling the rod with the split ring mounted thereon to be inserted into the cylinder, ~~characterized in that~~ said second groove (28) ~~is being~~ situated at the inner end of said rod while said first groove (18) is situated more towards the opposite end of said rod, in proximity to said base there being provided a counteracting member which during the final stage of the total insertion of the rod into the cylinder is arranged to interfere with the split ring in order to cause it to transfer from said second groove to said first groove, wherein said second groove is configured to form a retention seat for said split ring and is dimensioned to hold said split ring so that the external generators of said split ring lie below the outer surface of said rod, thereby allowing said split ring to be inserted with said rod into said cylinder during assembly of said cylinder-piston unit, and said first groove is dimensioned to hold said split ring so that the external generators of said split ring lie beyond the outer surface of said rod.

2. (Original) A cylinder-piston unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said counteracting member is formed in one piece with said base.

3. (Original)        A cylinder-piston unit as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that said counteracting member comprises a cyathiform element which is shaped and dimensioned such as to receive at least the terminal rod portion on which said second groove is provided.

4. (Original)        A cylinder-piston unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the adjacent sides of said two grooves are joined by a generally frusto-conical portion able to facilitate the passage of said split ring from the second to the first groove.